IN THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) An oral sustained release pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a plurality of granules having diameters of not more than 1000 μm,

wherein said granules comprise:

a nucleus granule comprised of beraprost sodium, and

a coating agent coating said nucleus granule, and wherein said coating agent is comprised of:

a first skin layer containing one or more relatively water-insoluble macromolecular substances, and

a second skin layer containing one or more hot-melt low-melting substances.

2. (previously presented) The oral sustained release pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein said one or more relatively water-insoluble macromolecular substances are selected from the group consisting of water-insoluble alkyl cellulose ether derivatives, water-insoluble acrylic polymer derivatives and water-insoluble vinyl derivatives.

3. (previously presented) The oral sustained release pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 or 2, wherein said hot-melt low-melting substance has a softening point of not higher than 70°C.

4. (previously presented) The oral sustained release pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein said one or more hot-melt low-melting substances are selected from the group consisting of higher alcohols, higher fatty acids, higher fatty acid glycerin esters, waxes and saturated hydrocarbons.

5. (previously presented) The oral sustained release pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein a weight

ratio of said first skin layer to said second skin layer ranges from about 1:9 to about 9:1.

6. (currently amended) A process for producing an oral sustained release pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) applying a coating comprised of beraprost sodium to a granule,

b) applying a coating comprised of one of a ~~relatively~~ hot-melt low melting substance or of a relatively water-insoluble macromolecular substance to said beraprost sodium coated granule, thereby providing a first skin layer,

c) applying ~~one of a~~ the other of said hot-melt low-melting substance or said relatively water-insoluable macromolecular substance to said first skin layer, thereby providing a second skin layer,

d) curing said coated granules to form films, and

e) encapsulating said coated granules in a capsule.

7. (previously presented) The oral sustained release pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein said weight ratio ranges from about 3:7 to about 7:3.